



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
[www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov)

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/657,041	09/05/2000	Leonard Pinchuk	BSI-430US8	9622
23122	7590	08/27/2007	EXAMINER	
RATNERPRESTIA			THALER, MICHAEL H	
P O BOX 980				
VALLEY FORGE, PA 19482-0980			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3731	
			MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
			08/27/2007	PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>
	09/657,041	PINCHUK ET AL.
	<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Art Unit</b>
	Michael Thaler	3731

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 21 May 2007.
- 2a) This action is FINAL.                    2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-30 and 40-58 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 43-58 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) 1-30 is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 40-42 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.  
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) All    b) Some \* c) None of:
    1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)                     | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)           |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____                                      |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)          | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.   | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____.                         |

Art Unit: 3731

The Office Action mailed August 16, 2007 is hereby withdrawn. The period for response is reset to begin with the mailing of this Office Action.

Claims 40-42 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Martin (5,575,817). Martin discloses a multi-component bifurcating expandable supportive graft comprising trunk component 7 surrounding a trunk liner 3, the trunk liner 3 having a generally cylindrical body portion 6 and two leg portions 4, 5, wherein the generally cylindrical body portion of the liner 3 and portions of the leg portions 4, 5 (i.e. the radially outward portion of each leg portion 4, 5) abut the trunk component 7 (Note that the trunk component 7, i.e. the mesh support, covers substantially the entire trunk liner 3, i.e. the graft including its leg portions 4, 5 as indicated in col. 2, lines 37-42. Thus, the radially outward portion of trunk liner 3, i.e. the portion of trunk liner 3 which includes its outer surface, abuts the inner surface of trunk component 7 where the trunk liner 3 and trunk component 7 are bonded together.), and portions of the leg portions not abutting the trunk component (i.e. the radially inward portion of each leg portion 4, 5) abut one another and are secured to one another (where the leg portions 4, 5 meet at their tops and thus abut each other as shown in figure 1 and where they are secured to

Art Unit: 3731

one another due to their unitary connection with each other), and a generally cylindrical supportive leg component 2 which is telescopically positioned with respect to one of the leg portions 6 of the liner (col. 3, lines 29-34). As to claim 42, note col. 2, lines 39 and col. 3, lines 23-26 of Martin.

Claims 1-30 are allowed.

Applicant's arguments filed May 21, 2007 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. The phrase "tailored to the same dimensions" in col. 2, lines 37-42 of Martin indicates that, in this embodiment, the mesh support has substantially the same dimensions as the graft. When a material is "tailored to the same dimensions" as another material, this normally means that the two materials have substantially the same dimensions.

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated

Art Unit: 3731

from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Michael Thaler whose telephone number is (571) 272-4704. The examiner can normally be reached Monday to Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Anhtuan T. Nguyen can be reached on (571) 272-4963. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300.



MICHAEL THALER  
PRIMARY EXAMINER  
ART UNIT 3731

mht